Harmful effects of indiscriminate use of Pesticides

4061. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that indiscriminate use of pesticides is breaking the agricultural ecological system, increasing residual toxicity of our soil and causing harm to the human beings, animals and water;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to educate the farmers about the scientific methods of Pest Management;

(c) whether it is a fact that Food & Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has undertaken a programme to impart training in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to produce trainers in India, Bangladesh etc;

(d) if so, the number of persons so far trained under the Programme; and

(e) the number of Agronomists of Fertilizer Promotion & Agricultural Research Division (FP & ARD) under Hindustan Fertilier Corpn. (HFC), who have so far received training in U.K. on I.P.M. and whether their services are now being utilised for the purpose of imparting training and education in scientific pest management to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Pesticides being toxic in nature, if not used as per recommended practice and used indiscriminately can cause breaking of agricultural ecological system, increase of pesticidal residues in soil and even can lead to cause harm to human beings, animals and the environment.

(b) The Government have taken various steps to educate the farmers about the scientific methods of Pest Management viz.

(i) Implementation of eco-friendly approach on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for pest control which inter alia includes adoption of suitable cultural and mechanical practices, conservation and augmentation of bio-control agents, use of neem based pesticides as well as bio-pesticides and last but not the least the judicious use of chemical pesticides on the basis of Economic Threshold Level (ETL) of pests. To popularise IPM among the State Extension Functionaries and farmers, 16 existing Central IPM Centres have been recognised and four new such centres are being set up in North-Eastern States with an aim to impart education to the farmers.

A massive educational cum training programme for farmers and Estate Extension Functionaries (to act as Master Trainers subsequently) has been launched in collaboration with State Departments of Agriculture in Rice, Cotton and other field crops. During 1994-95, 8424 IPM Farmers' Field Schools were set up wherein 3934 Agricultural Extension Officers and 25161 farmers have been trained in 211 districts of the country.

(ii) For education and training of the farmers and extension functionaries, IPM Manuals, Farmres' Field Guide and Posters in Hindi and English have been distributed.

(iii) Under statutory provision of Insecticides Act, 1968 and Rules framed thereunder each pesticide container is accompanied with lables and leaflets printed in English, Hindi and one of the regional languages containing the information of scientific methods of pest management.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Under this programme so far 886 trainees have been trained.

(e) A total of 16 agronomists of Fertilizer Promotion & Agricultural Research Division under Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation, have so far received training in U.K. on I.P.M. Eleven

number Agronomists are now being utilised for purpose of imparting training and education in Scientific Pest Management to the farmers, Two numbers are engaged in coordination of Plant Protection wosks at Zonal and Corporate Office, 3 Agronomists are no more on the Rolls of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited.

सब्जियों का वार्षिक उत्पादन

4062. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पिछले वर्षों के दौरान देश में सब्जियों का औसत वार्षिक उत्पादन लगभग 580 लाख टन रहा है ;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या है ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि देश में प्रति व्यक्ति प्रतिदिन 120 से 130 ग्राम सब्जियां उपलब्ध होती हैं ;

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है, और क्या अच्छे स्वास्थ्य के लिये प्रतिदिन प्रति व्यक्ति 300 ग्राम सब्जियों की जरूरत है ; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने देश में समयबद्ध लक्ष्य निर्धारित कर सब्जियों के उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने के लिये कोई योजना बनाई है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरविन्द नेताम) : (क) 1991-92 और 1992-93 के दौरान देश में सब्जियों का अनुमानित वार्षिक उत्पादन 647 लाख टन हुआ है ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) और (घ) सामान्य स्वास्थ्य के लिये पोषणात्मक विशेषज्ञों द्वारा सिफारिश की गई न्यूनतम 280 ग्राम की आवश्यकता के आधार पर देश में प्रति व्यक्ति प्रतिदिन सब्जियों की उपलब्धता लगभग 197 ग्राम होने का अनुमान लगाया गया है ।

(ङ) सब्जी वाली फसलों की उन्नत संकर किस्मों के बीजों के उत्पादन हेतु और अन्न तथा कंदमूल वाली फसलों की रोपण सामग्री तथा आठवीं योजना में 17.5 करोड़ रुपये के कुल परिव्यय से 16 सब्जी के बीजों का उत्पादन और आपूर्ति तथा "कंद-मूल वाली फसलों का विकास" नामक दो केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र की योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत देश के कृषकों को मिनीकिट के माध्यम से उनके प्रचार हेतु भारत सरकार राज्यों/संघ शासित प्रदेशों की सरकारों को सहायता प्रदान कर रही है ताकि आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्त तक लगभग 960 लाख टन सब्जियों के उत्पादन की उपलब्धि का लक्ष्य बढ़ाया जा सके ।

Soil Erosion in Catchment Area

4063. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some study has been undertaken in catchment area to determine the extent and effects of land erosion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take some steps to check the soil erosion in catchment areas in future on the basis of outcome of study;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether some catchment areas of the country involving soil erosion have been identified;

(f) if so, the names of States and Union Territories with reasons for soil erosion in these areas;

(g) whether soil erosion causes some effects; and

(h) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the priority delineation surveys in 44 catchments done by All India Soil and Land Use Survey Organisation of the Department of Agriculture, an area of about 260 lakh ha. has been identified as area vulnerable to soil erosion out of the total catchment area of about 896 lakh ha.